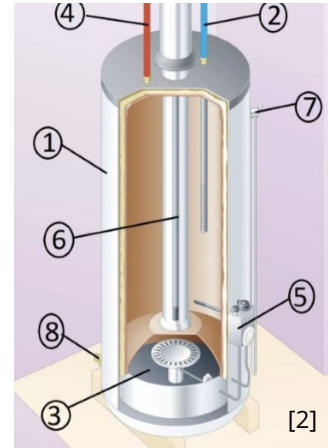


MIE 315 Final Presentation

Why Solar is Better

Solar Thermal Water Heating vs Natural Gas Water Heating



Introduction and Background

Who is the Client?

- Uoft Cooperative Residences
- Owns 24 homes in Downtown Toronto



[3]



[4]

Introduction and Background

Who is the Client?

- Uoft Cooperative Residences
- Owns 24 homes in Downtown Toronto

What happened to them?

- Received grant to upgrade their water heating systems



Introduction and Background

Who is the Client?

- Uoft Cooperative Residences
- Owns 24 homes in Downtown Toronto

What happened to them?

- Received grant to upgrade their water heating systems

Why is this important?

- Water heating is essential in freezing climates
- Vital in ensuring health and safety of residents



[3]



[4]

Motivation for this Report

The Motivation

- Client is considering two systems
 - **Natural Gas Water Heating (NG)**
 - **Solar Thermal Water Heating (ST)**



The Goal

Increase Sustainability of Residences and Maximize grant through analysis of NG and ST systems

Motivation for this Report

The Motivation

- Client is considering two systems
 - **Natural Gas Water Heating (NG)**
 - **Solar Thermal Water Heating (ST)**
- Team is to determine which system is:
 - More sustainable
 - Maximizes the benefits of the grant
- Team will conduct various analyses that compare environmental impacts, costs, and overall function of systems



The Goal

Increase Sustainability of Residences and Maximize grant through analysis of NG and ST systems

Scope and System Boundary

The Scope

- Focus placed on five life cycle stages
 - Premanufacturing
 - Manufacturing
 - Distribution
 - Use
 - Disposal (In Certain Analyses)
- Focus only on impacts due to inputs, outputs and direct energy consumption of these life stages



Scope and System Boundary

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 - Premanufacturing
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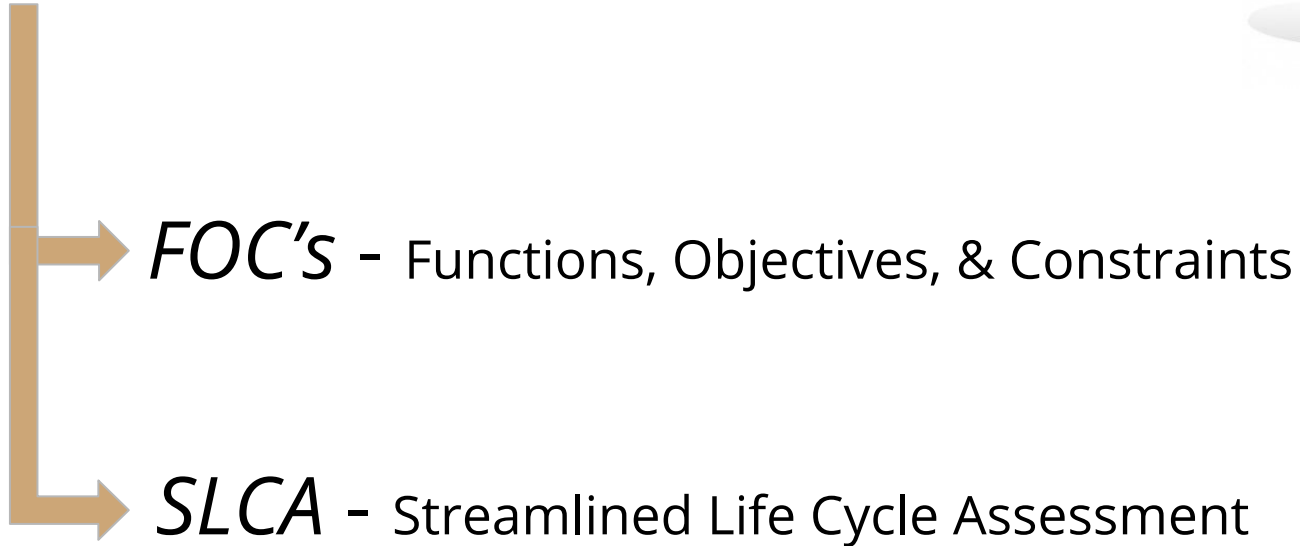
The System Boundary

- Common external features are excluded
- Processes related to by-products are excluded
- All emissions are included

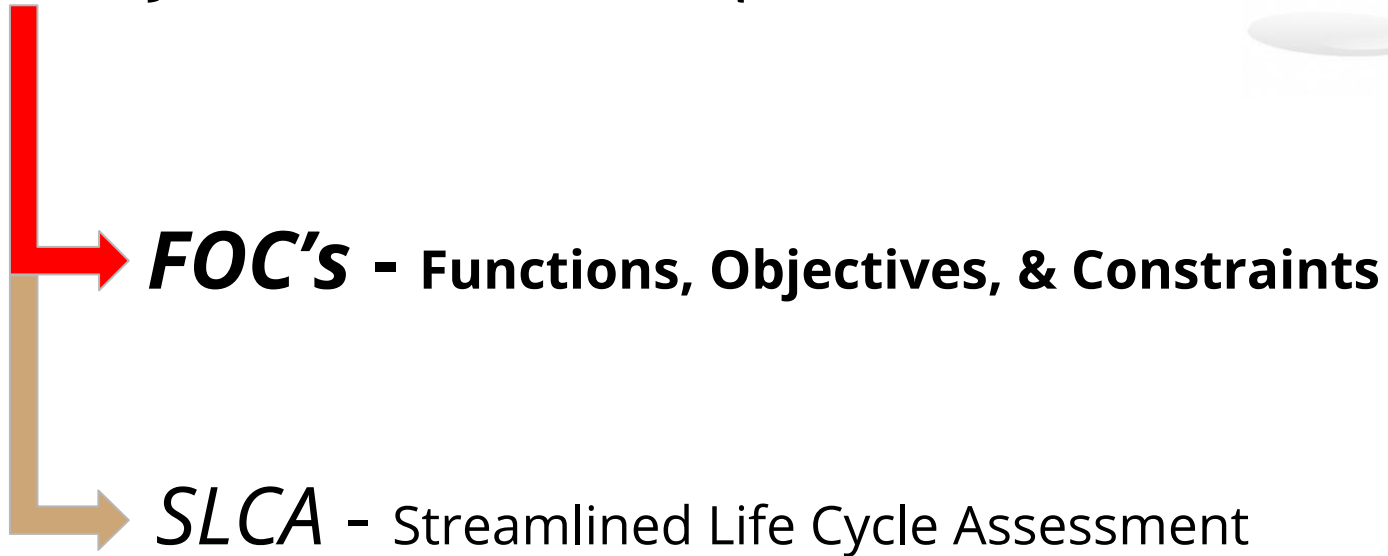
Preliminary Consultant's Report



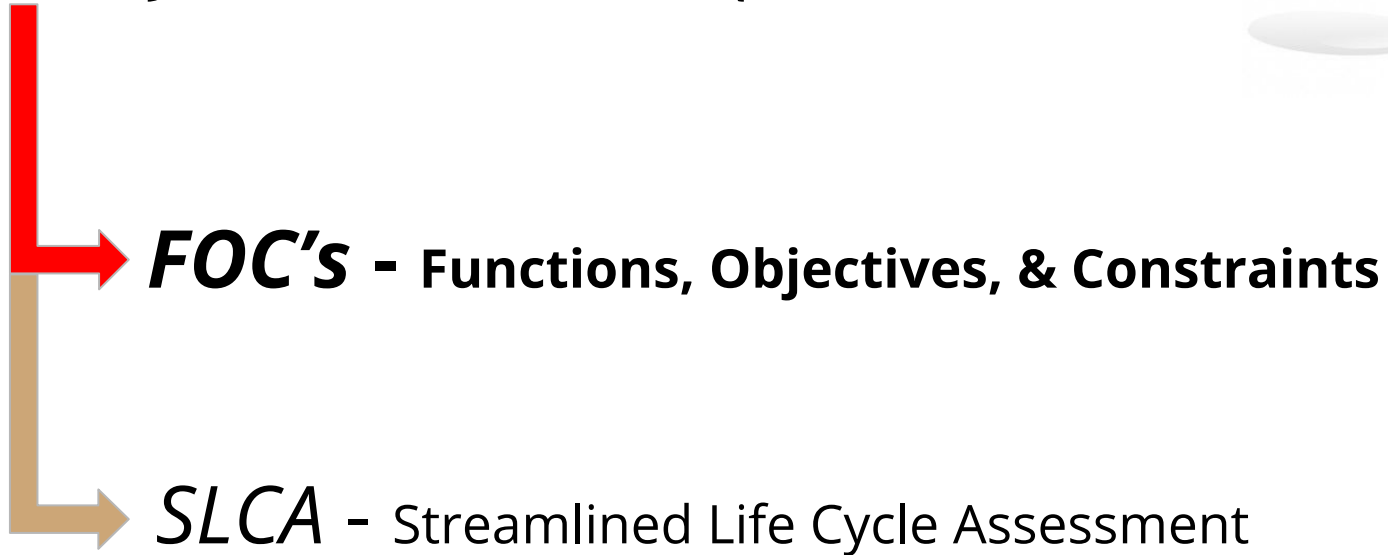
[9]



Preliminary Consultant's Report



Preliminary Consultant's Report



Functional Unit: The amount of energy input required over 20 years to heat 160 gallons of water per day to 60 °C

Functions



Convert cold water into hot water for the consumer

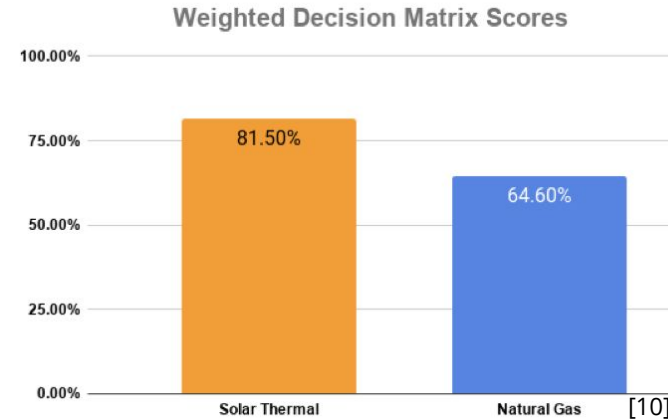
Transform input energy to heat energy

Functions

- Convert cold water into hot water for the consumer
- Transform input energy to heat energy

Objectives

- More Efficient
- More Environmentally Friendly
- More Economically Viable



Functions

- Convert cold water into hot water for the consumer
- Transform input energy to heat energy

Objectives

- More Efficient
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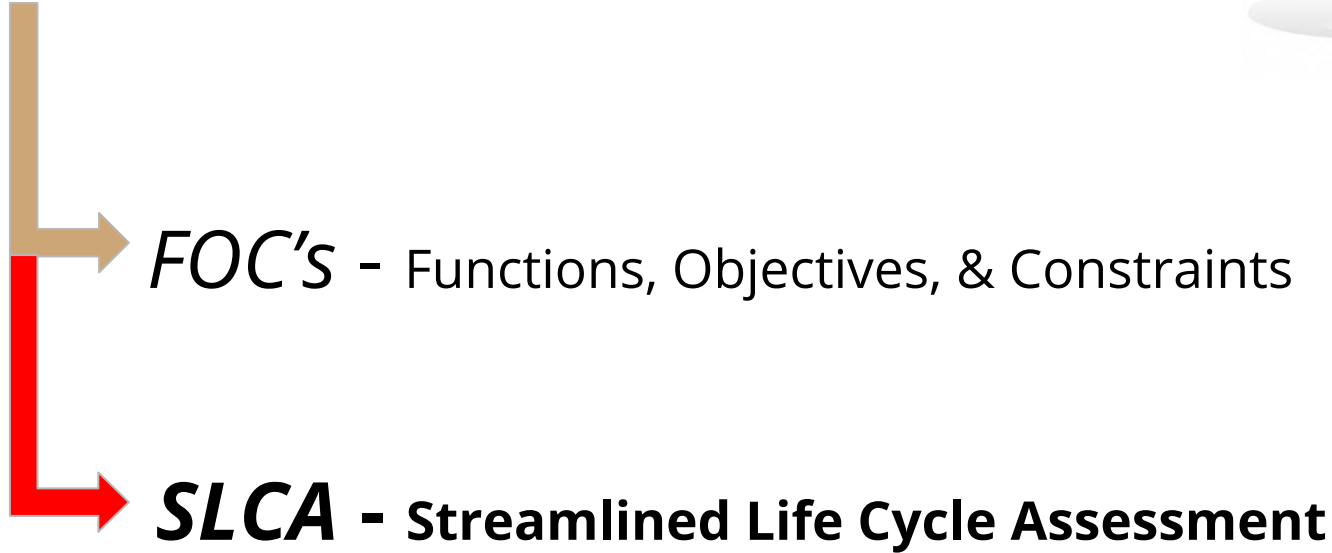
Constraints

- Safety Requirements
- Maximum CO₂ Emissions

Preliminary Consultant's Report



[9]



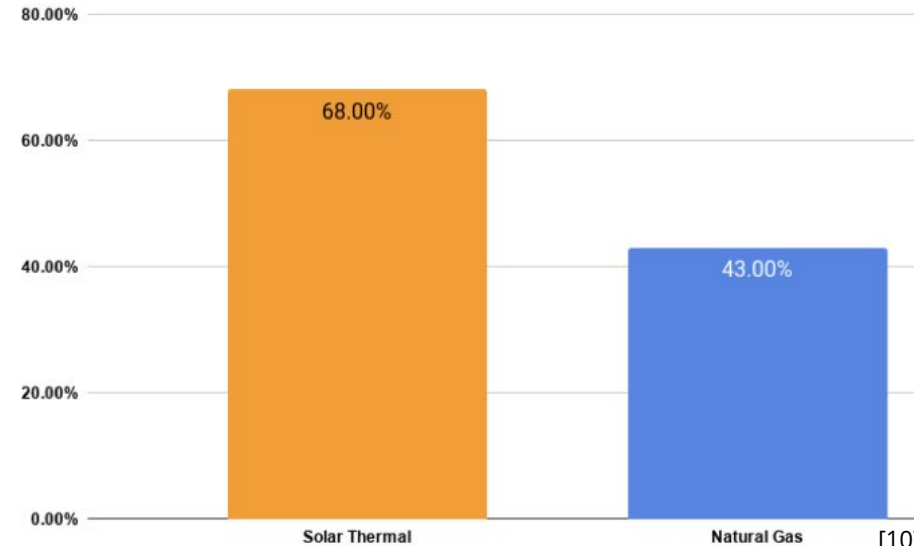
Streamlined LCA

➔ SLCA matrix Table according to certain life stages and environmental stressors

SLCA Matrix	Material Choice	Energy Use	Solid Residue	Liquid Residue	Gaseous Residue
Pre-Manufacturing	(1,1) Score:	(1,2) Score:	(1,3) Score:	(1,4) Score:	(1,5) Score:
Manufacturing	(2,1) Score:	(2,2) Score:	(2,3) Score:	(2,4) Score:	(2,5) Score:
Packaging and Transport	(3,1) Score:	(3,2) Score:	(3,3) Score:	(3,4) Score:	(3,5) Score:
Use	(4,1) Score:	(4,2) Score:	(4,3) Score:	(4,4) Score:	(4,5) Score:
Disposal	(5,1) Score:	(5,2) Score:	(5,3) Score:	(5,4) Score:	(5,5) Score:
Total Score					

SLCA Matrix Scores

➔ Solar Thermal Water Heating is preferred



Final Consultant's Report



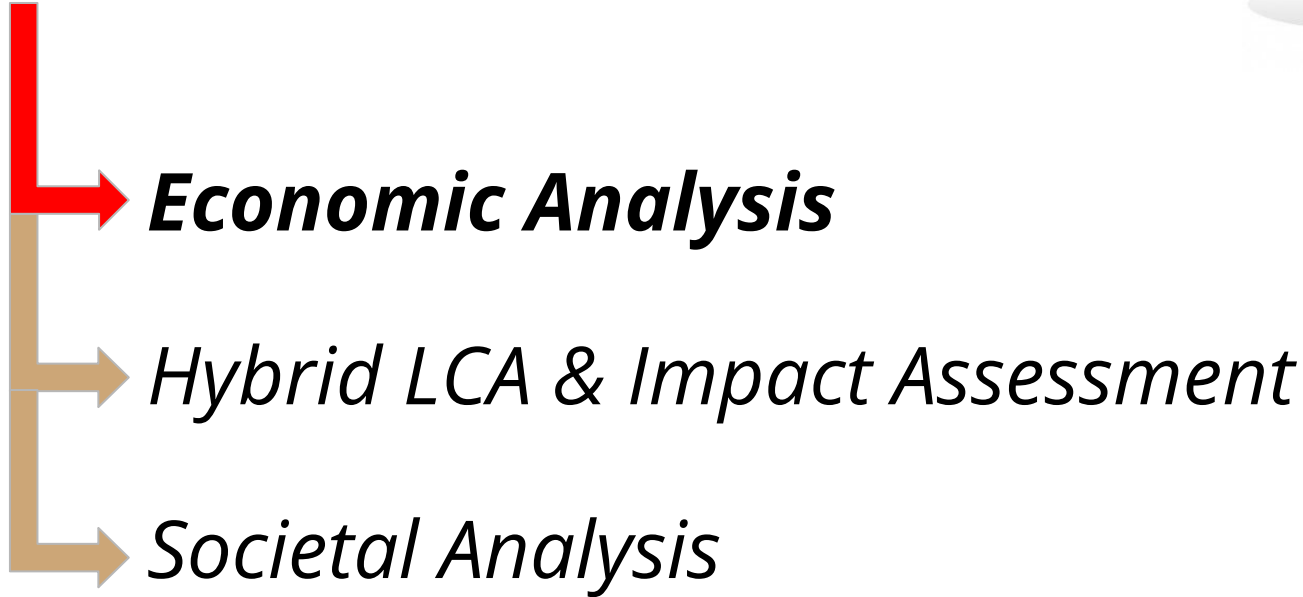
[9]



Final Consultant's Report



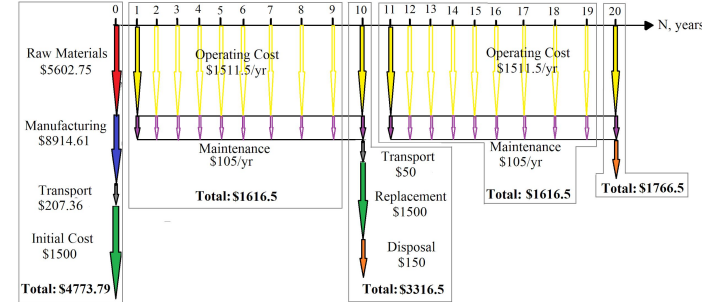
[9]



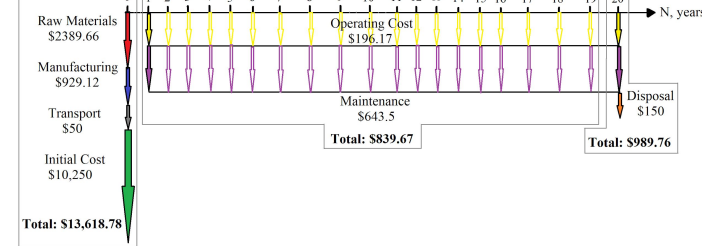
Economic Analysis

➔ The cash flows relevant to each life stage was found for both alternative systems

NG



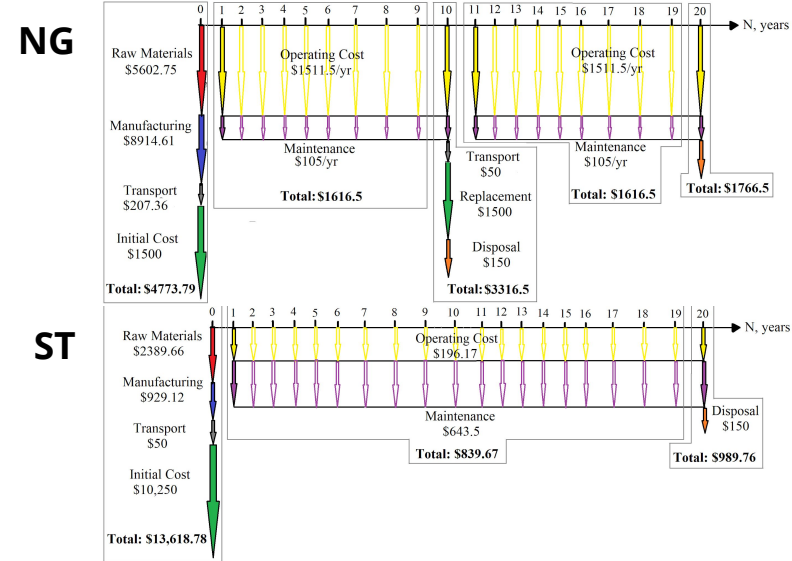
ST



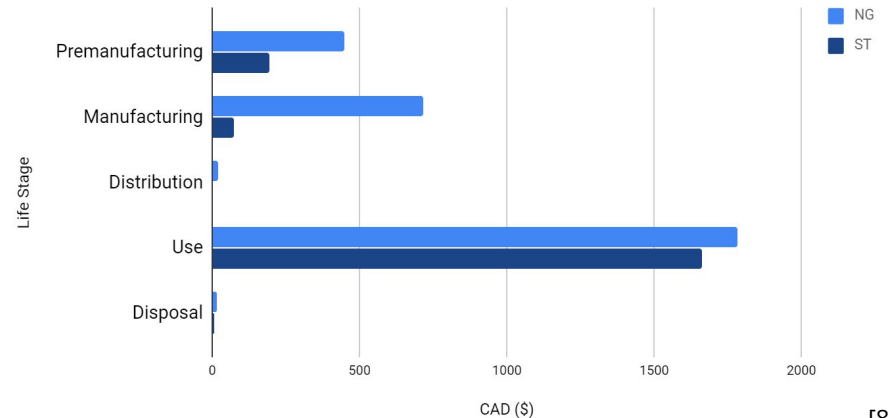
Economic Analysis

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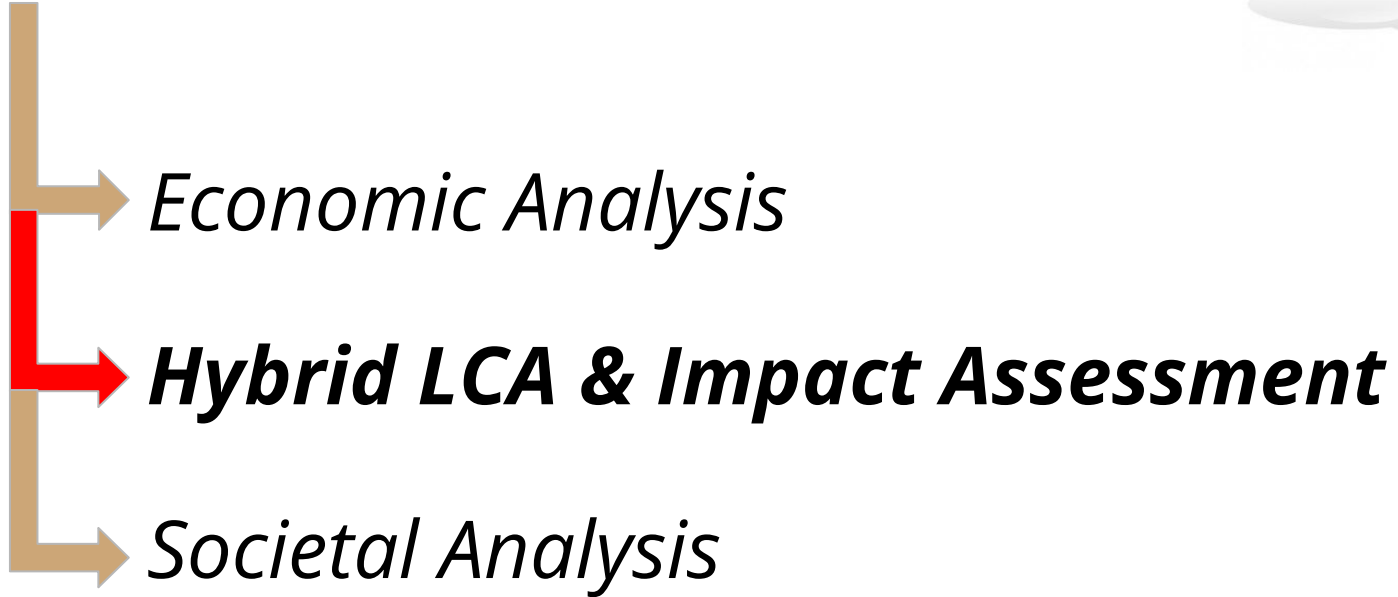
➔ NG has an annual equivalent cost of \$2982.7
ST \$1937.01



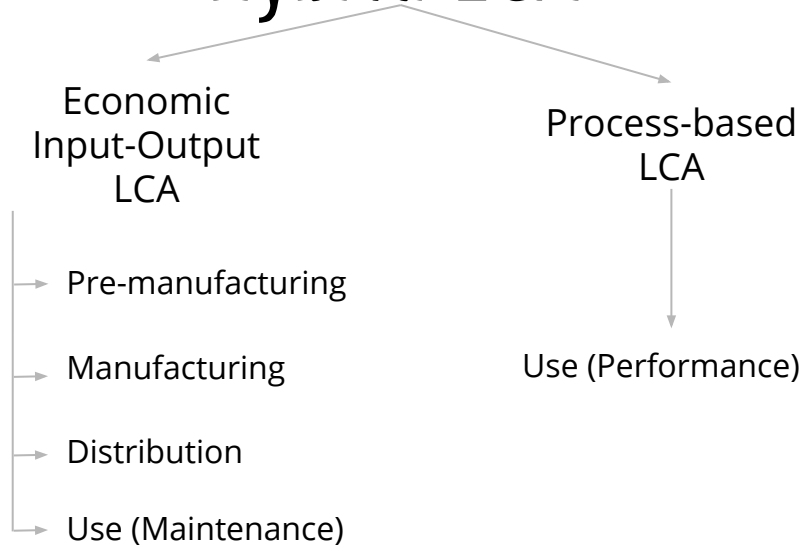
AEW Comparison between NG & ST for Each Life Stage



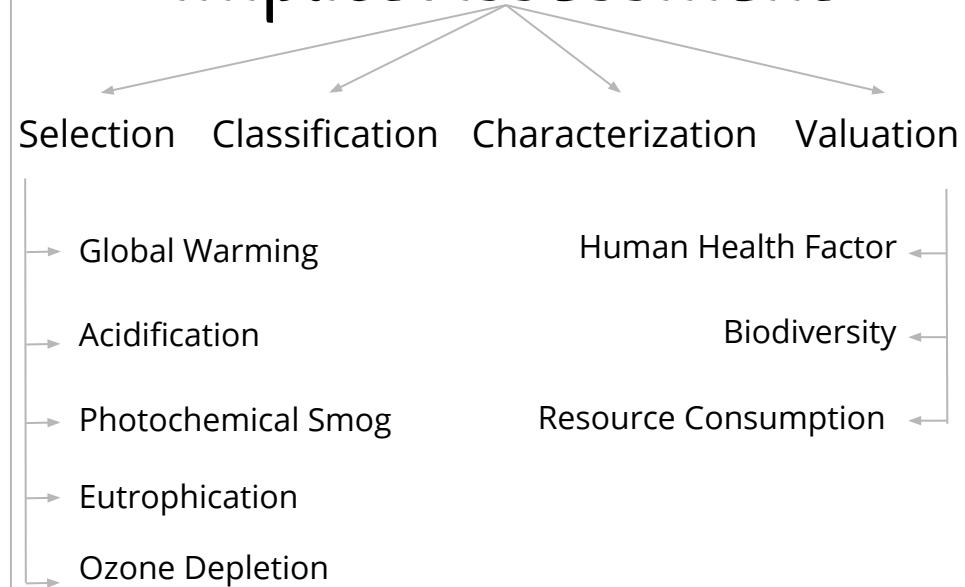
Final Consultant's Report



Hybrid LCA



Impact Assessment



Hybrid LCA

Economic
Input-Output
LCA

Process-based
LCA

Use (Performance)

Uncertainty resulting in Sensitivity

NG

ST

Greatest variance from the baseline was 29%
for NG compared to 23% for ST

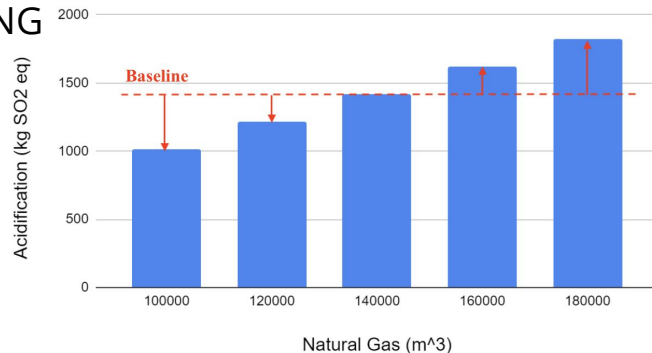
Pre-manufacturing

Manufacturing

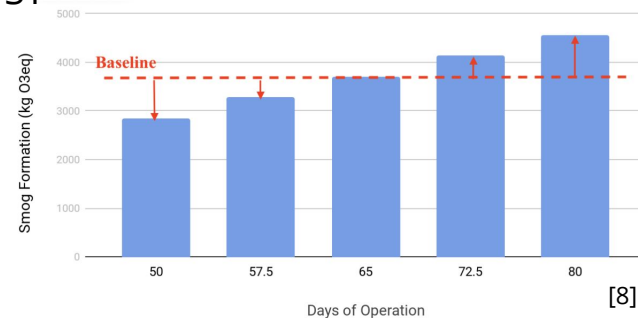
Distribution

Use (Maintenance)

Acidification of Natural Gas based on Lifetime Consumption
NG



Photochemical Smog Formation based on Number of Days of Electric Backup Operation
ST



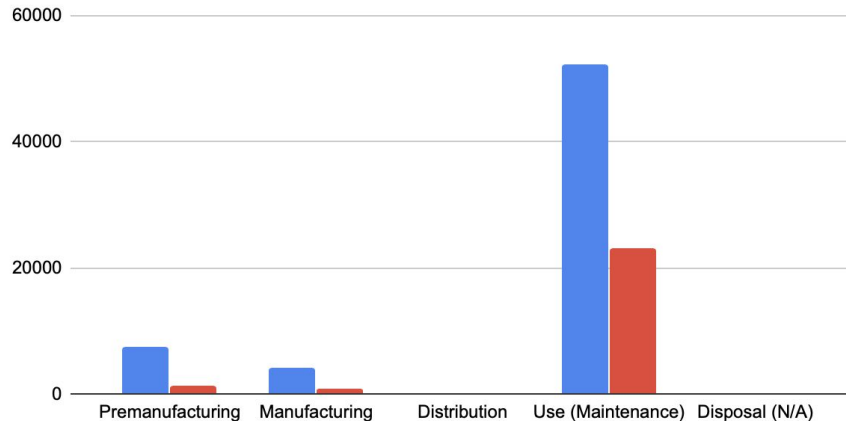
Hybrid LCA

➔ Total dollars per heating system for NG is \$64,090.35 and for ST is \$25,092.92

➔ ST cost more than NG across all life stages

Comparing Life Stages

■ Natural Gas ■ Solar Thermal



Impact Assessment

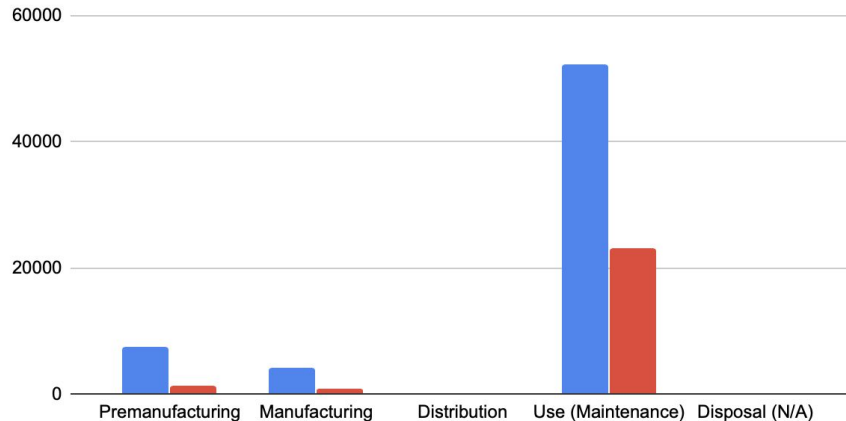
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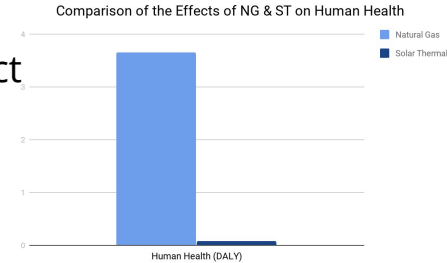
Comparing Life Stages

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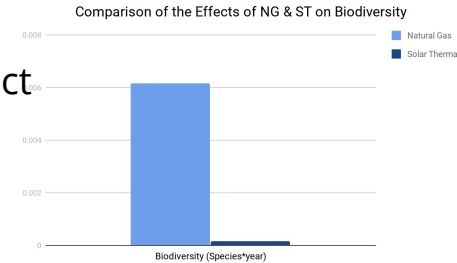


Impact Assessment

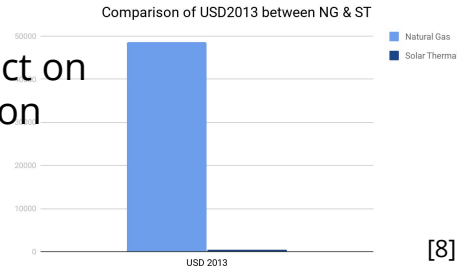
➔ ST had a lower impact on human health



➔ ST had a lower impact on biodiversity



➔ ST had a lower impact on resource consumption



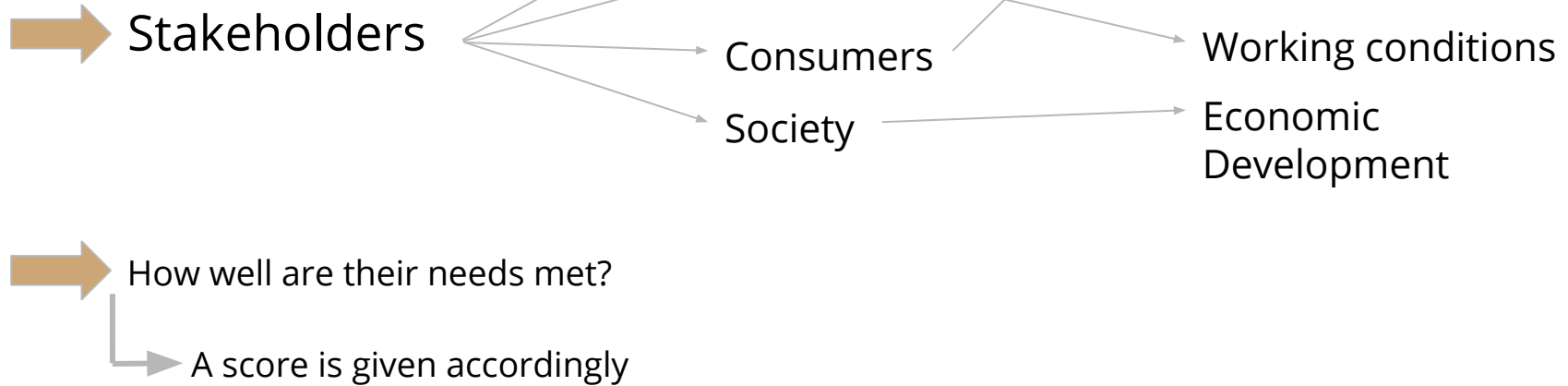
Final Consultant's Report



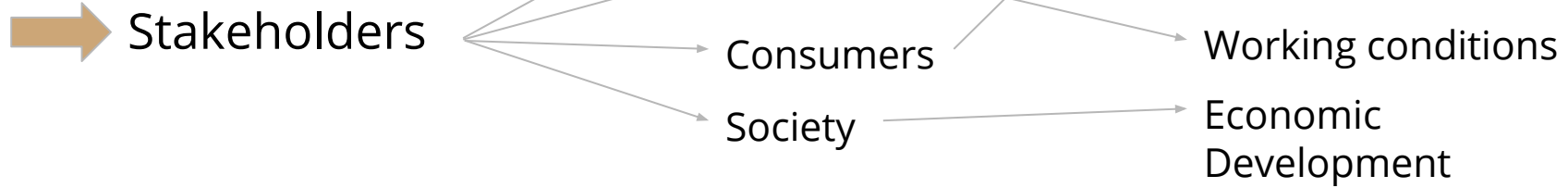
Societal Analysis



Societal Analysis

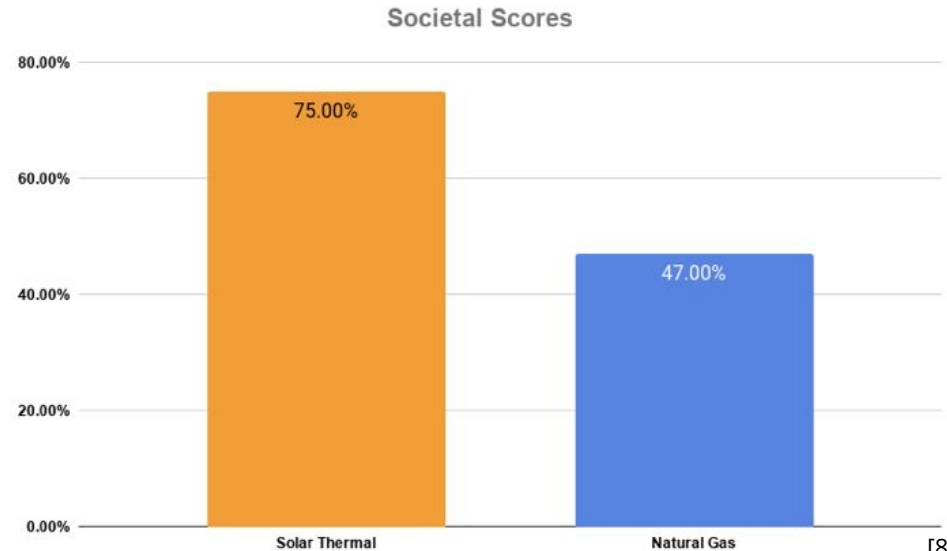


Societal Analysis



➔ How well are their needs met?
↳ A score is given accordingly

➔ ST had a final score of 75% which was higher than NG score, 47%.



Design for Environment Strategies



[9]

- *Minimizing Resource Consumption*
- *Use Low Impact Resources*
- *Optimize Product Lifetime*
- *Extend Material Lifetime & Design for Disassembly*

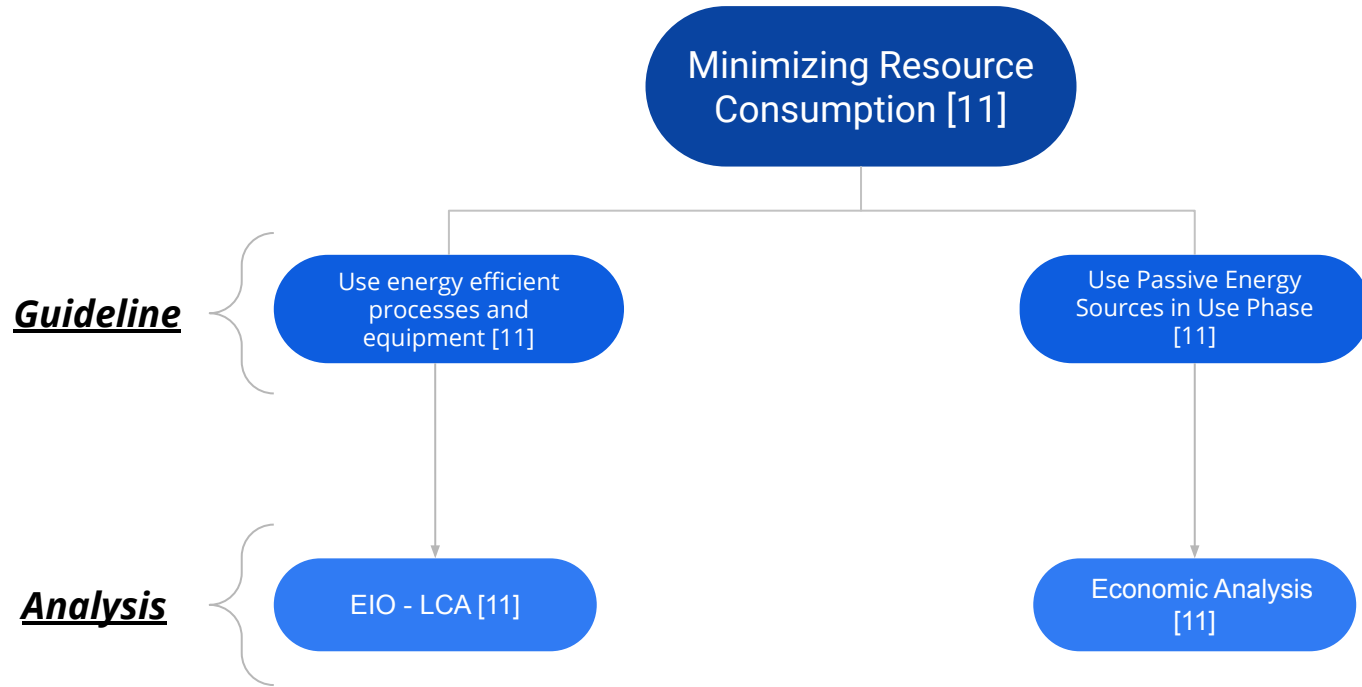
Design for Environment Strategies



[9]

- Minimizing Resource Consumption**
- Use Low Impact Resources*
- Optimize Product Lifetime*
- Extend Material Lifetime & Design for Disassembly*

1st DfE Strategy: Minimizing Resource Consumption



Guideline #1: Use energy efficient processes and equipment

Pre - Manufacturing Stage: Raw Materials Used

- **Natural Gas:**
 - 1) Energy into compressor at Wellhead [8]
 - 2) Fuel Gas used in the Oil Rigs [8]
- **Solar Thermal:**
 - Glass, Aluminum, and Copper found in the framework of the collector and the tank [8]

EIO - LCA

Natural Gas

Inlet Gas Compression and Oil Rigs

- 1) Power Needed
29479 Kwh [8]
- 2) 13.59×10^6 m3 of
Fuel Gas [8]

Solar Thermal

Collector and Tank

Virgin
Materials [8]

\$7571
[8]

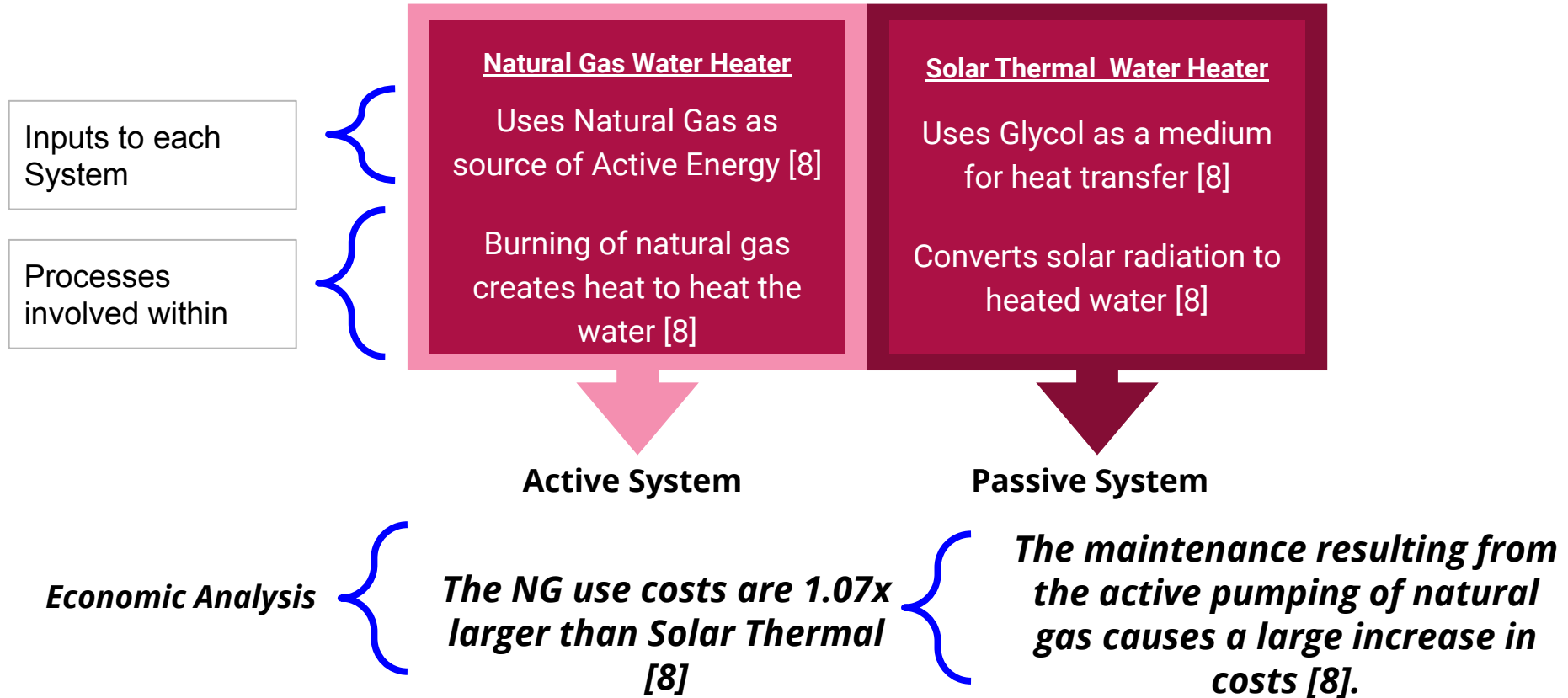
\$1176
[8]

Result

Natural Gas is a more Energy
Intensive Process

Pre-Manufacturing Monetary Value
Solar Thermal < **Natural Gas**

Guideline #2: Use Passive Energy Sources in Use Phase

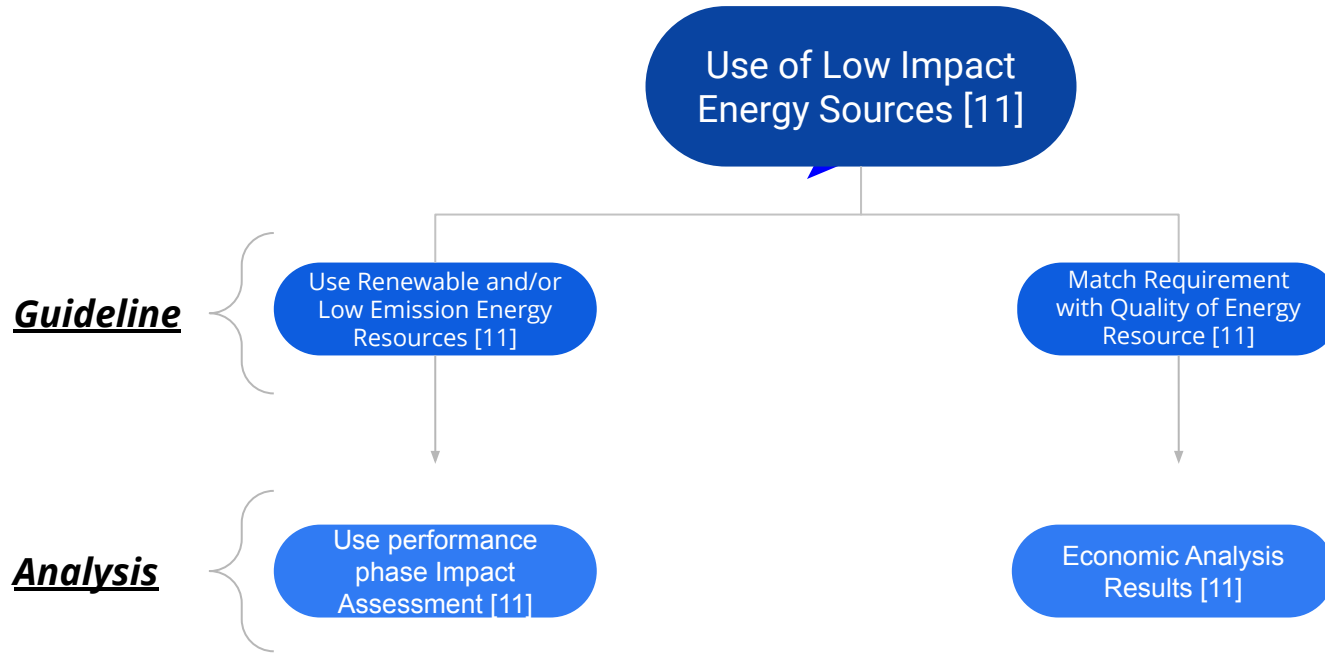


Design for Environment Strategies

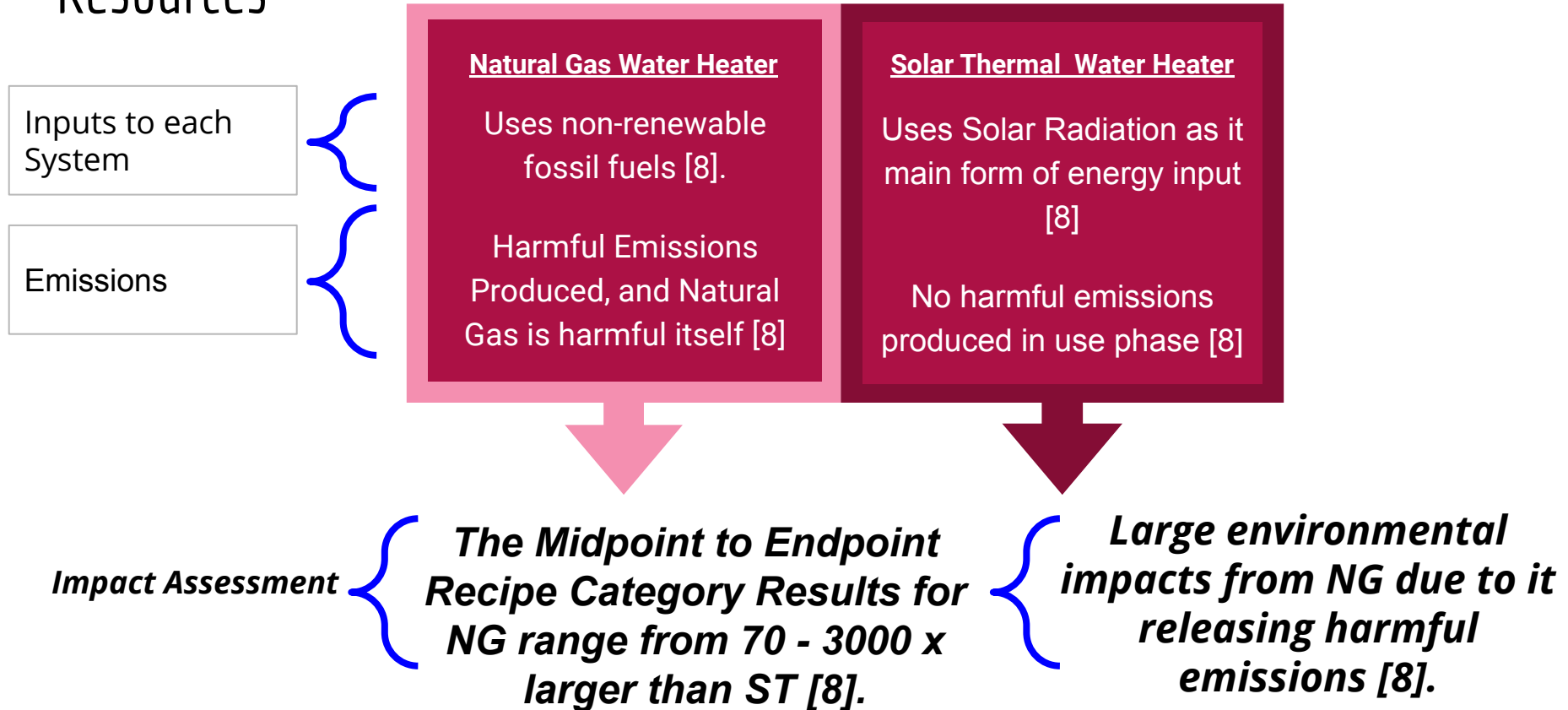


- *Minimizing Resource Consumption*
- ***Use Low Impact Resources***
- *Optimize Product Lifetime*
- *Extend Material Lifetime & Design for Disassembly*

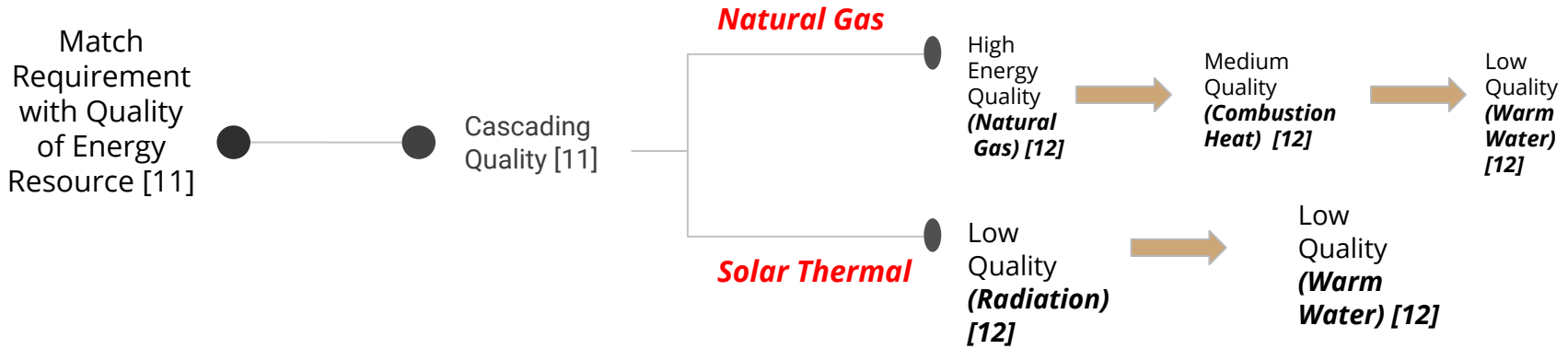
2st DfE Strategy: Use Low Impact Resources



Guideline #1: Use of Renewable and/or Low Emission Energy Resources



Guideline #2: Match Requirement with Quality of Energy Resource



Economic Analysis

AEW of Natural Gas \$1782[8]

AEW of Solar Thermal is \$1662 [8]

Solar More Efficient

Use Phase Results:

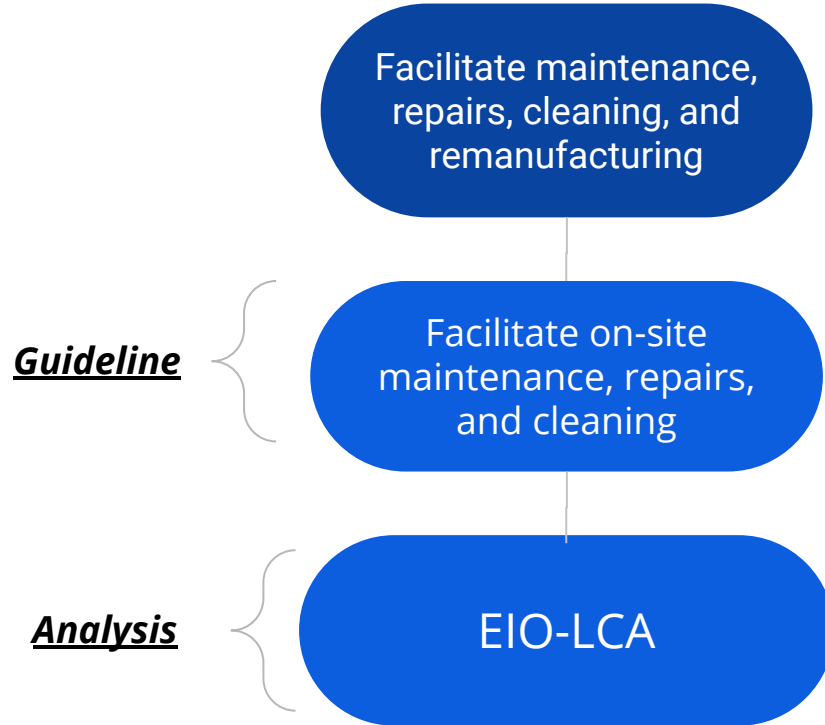
Large Amounts of Natural Gas are needed to heat the same amount of Water as compared to Solar

Design for Environment Strategies



- *Minimizing Resource Consumption*
- *Use Low Impact Resources*
- ***Optimize Product Lifetime***
- *Extend Material Lifetime & Design for Disassembly*

3rd DfE Strategy: Optimize Product Lifetime



3st DfE Strategy: Optimize Product Lifetime

Note:
Both
systems
use same
tank

Natural Gas Water Heater

- Maintenance of gas components required

Solar Thermal Water Heater

- Dust and vegetation removal
- Crack repair

EIO-LCA Analysis

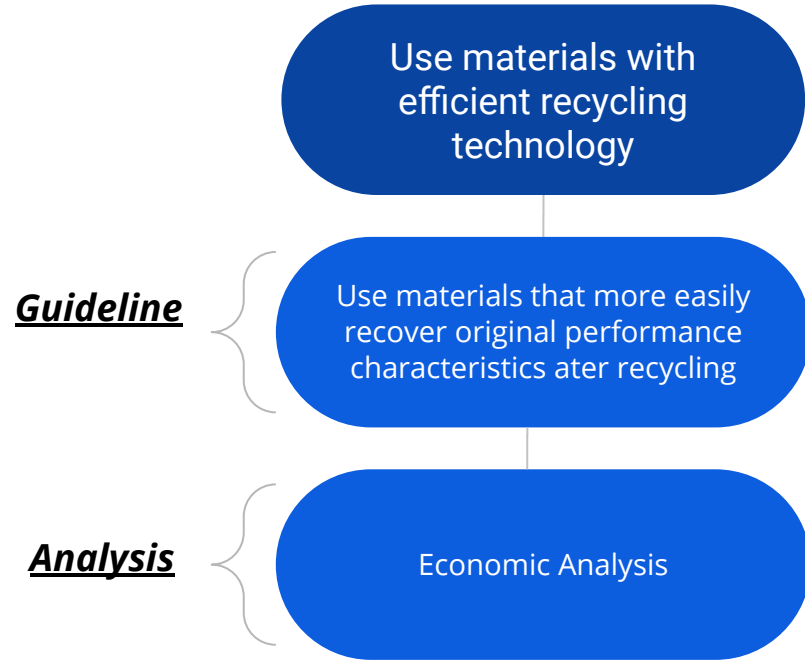
The Use Maintenance Phase of EIO-LCA shows that NG costs 2.4x more than ST [8]

Design for Environment Strategies



- *Minimizing Resource Consumption*
- *Use Low Impact Resources*
- *Optimize Product Lifetime*
- ***Extend Material Lifetime & Design for Disassembly***

4th DfE Strategy: Extend Material Lifetime



Natural Gas

- Combustion → reduce recycling ability & lifetime

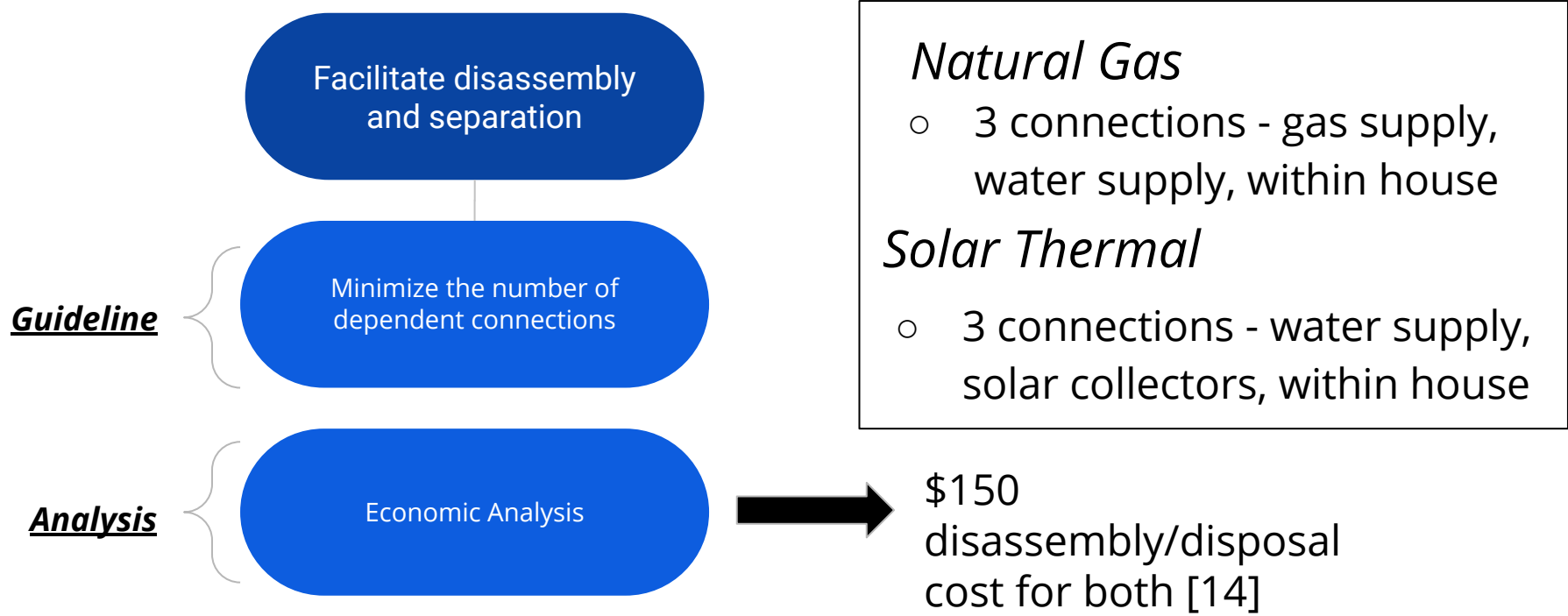
Solar Thermal

- Heat exchanger → components unaffected [13]

Over a 20 year lifetime, the replacement cost for natural gas is...

\$1500 [8]

5th DfE Strategy: Design for Disassembly



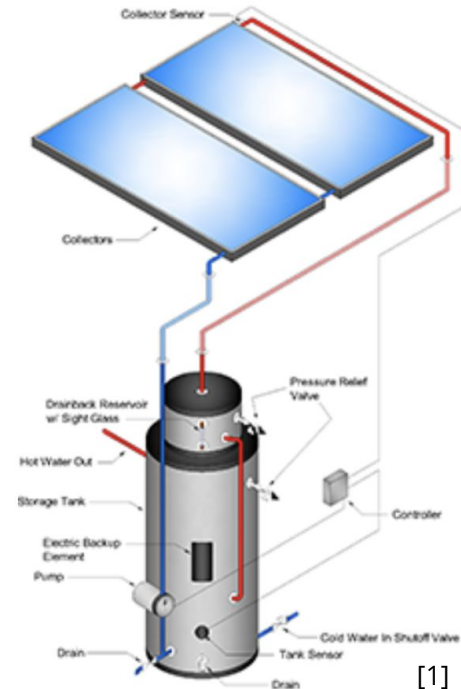
Final Recommendation

Recommendations for ST (Dfe Strategies)

- **Minimize Energy Consumption:** Use more recycled materials to achieve 90-95% energy savings [8]
- **Improve Passive system:** Increase fluid thermal properties in order to increase efficiency
- **Extend Lifetime & Facilitate Maintenance:** Automated Cleaning & Tankless Alternative to Lower Maintenance Cost

Optimal Design:

Solar Thermal water heating



[1]

Thank you!



Design for the Environment

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- [11] C. Vezzoli, Design for environmental sustainability.
- [12] Professor Kazemi, Lecture 8 - Part 3: Low Impact Energy Sources
- [13] "How Do Solar Hot Water Heating Systems Work?," Evergreen Energy, 21-Nov-2019. [Online]. Available: <https://www.evergreenenergy.co.uk/solar-thermal-panels/how-does-solar-water-heating-work/>. [Accessed: 07-Apr-2020].
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